

## **Veterans' Affairs Committee**

Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. City Manager's Conference Room – 1st Floor City Hall, 255 W. Alameda, Tucson, Arizona

## **Legal Action Report**

#### 1. Call to Order/Establish a Quorum

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Bruce Hamilton at 6:00 p.m. Those present and absent were:

Present: Representing:

Gary Ochoa Arizona Department of Veterans Services
Carol Rundell Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary

Chapter 2

C.W. Hall

Disabled American Veterans Chapter 4

William Burks

Disabled American Veterans Chapter 26

Henry Johnson

Marine Corps League, Marana Nighthawk

William Wojciechowski Military Officers Association of America,
Tucson Chapter

John L. Grand Military Order of the Purple Heart

Peter Kane (Advisory Member) Tucson Airport Authority

Joel Stoltz (arrived at 6:05 pm) Tucson Jewish War Veterans Post 201
Bruce Hamilton, Chairperson Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans

Martin Belden Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 106
Melvin Morgan Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 106

Absent:

Phyllis Russell Esperanza En Escalante

Lester Craig Korean War and Korea Service Veterans Luke Johnson Southern Arizona VA Health Care System

Shaun B. Pfund Tucson Veterans Cemetery Group

**Staff Member Present:** 

Delma Sanchez City Clerk's Office, Recording Secretary

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Invocation

The invocation was given by Committee Member H. Johnson.

4. Introduction of Guests

Bob Slocum, Military Order of the Purple Heart

Lisette Eckman, Tucson Veterans Day Parade, gave a brief update on the upcoming Veterans Day Parade.

Terry Byron, Marana Night Hawk 72

# 5. Approval of Legal Action Report and Summary Minutes from December 12, 2018 meeting

It was moved by Committee Member C. W. Hall, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 10 to 0 (Committee Members L. Craig, L. Johnson, S. Pfund, P. Russell and J. Stoltz absent), to approve the Legal Action Report and Summary Minutes from the December 12, 2018 meeting.

## 6. Treasurer's Report

Report was given by Committee Member M. Belden, and the financial report was distributed. It was moved by Committee Member C.W. Hall, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 10 to 0 (Committee Members L. Craig, L. Johnson, S. Pfund, P. Russell and J. Stoltz absent) to accept the Financial Report.

## 7. Consideration/Approval of Members

# a. Reappointment of Gary Ochoa, recommended by the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services

Chairperson B. Hamilton stated Committee Member G. Ochoa was being recommended for reappointment by the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services.

It was moved by Committee Member H. Johnson, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 10 to 0 (Committee Members L. Craig, L. Johnson, S. Pfund, P. Russell and J. Stoltz absent) to reappoint Committee Member G. Ochoa to the Veterans' Affairs Committee, representing the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services.

## b. Reappointment of Carol Rundell, recommended by the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services

Chairperson B. Hamilton stated Committee Member C. Rundell was being recommended for reappointment by the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, Cactus Chapter #2.

It was moved by Committee Member J. Stoltz, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 11 to 0 (Committee Members L. Craig, L. Johnson, S. Pfund and P. Russell absent) to reappoint Committee Member C. Russell to the Veterans' Affairs Committee, representing the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, Cactus Chapter #2.

## 8. Committee Reports

#### a. Southern Arizona VA Health Care System

Committee Member C. Rundell stated the bowling event this year would be held on March 9, 2019. She indicated that tickets were \$20.00 per person and those not wanting to attend could donate their ticket to a veteran. She asked everyone to volunteer and donate to help veterans. A discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

#### b. Tucson Veterans Cemetery

A report was given by Committee Member G. Ochoa. He spoke on the importance of getting information out to veterans on filing their DD214 forms and have copies available to their families. He also stated that veterans could pre-register. A Discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

## c. Arizona Department of Veterans' Service

A report was given by Committee Member G. Ochoa. A discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

## 9. Four Chaplains Memorial Ceremony Update/Discussion

Guest T. Byron gave an update on the Four Chaplains Memorial Ceremony. She stated it was the 76th Annual Memorial Service and would be held on February 3, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the Kino Veteran's Memorial Park. Handout was distributed. A discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

## 10. Including Military Lounge name to Bylaws Update/Discussion

It was moved by Committee Member H. Johnson, duly seconded and carried by a voice vote of 11 to 0, (Committee Members L. Craig, L. Johnson, S. Pfund and P. Russell absent) to change the name to Military Lounge from Military Liason Office in the bylaws.

## 11. Military Liaison Office Update/Discussion

Advisory Member P. Kane stated renovations were moving forward.

No formal action was taken.

## 12. Operation Exodus Update/Discussion

Advisory Member P. Kane gave an update on the Military Lounge. He indicated there were some items that were not very popular at last years Operation Exodus and he would keep that in mind for this year. A discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

## 13. Hats Off to Heroes Update/Discussion

Committee Member G. Ochoa stated the first meeting for Hats Off to Heroes would be held this month. A discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

## 14. Recruiting Efforts for VAC Membership Update/Discussion

Chairperson B. Hamilton opened the discussion by asking what could be done to attract new members/organizations to the Committee other than the letter that he signed and distributed. It was suggested the letter and hand outs be available at other organization events as well as VAC events, and possibly send out personal invitations. A discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

## 15. Discussion regarding Mayor Rothschild's attendance at future meetings

Chair B. Hamilton stated a letter was being sent on behalf of the Committee to Mayor Rothschild and meeting dates for 2019 were included. No formal action was taken.

## 16. Report on Current Events: For the Good of the Order

Reports regarding various upcoming events were provided by Committee Members, H. Johnson, J. Stoltz, C. Rundell, M. Belden and Chair B. Hamilton. No formal action was taken.

## 17. Future Agenda Items:

- Veterans' Parade
- Dealing with water contamination (will be scheduled in March)

## 18. Salute to Colors

## 19. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.